

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-5 presented in the underlying International Application No. PCT/EP2004/011856 without prejudice, and add new claims 6-10 as shown in the listing of claims.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (new): A method for drying laundry in a laundry dryer having a program control device, a drying chamber and a process air circuit including a fresh air supply passageway and an exhaust air discharge passageway, the process air circuit having disposed therein a heater and a blower for conveying drying air through the drying chamber, the method comprising:

 providing a flow dividing device in the process air circuit configured to divide, into an exhaust air component and a recirculated air component, a flow of the drying air;

 measuring, by a sensor, at least one of a pressure and a pressure profile in an air stream of the process air circuit in an area where the drying air enters the drying chamber;

 evaluating the at least one of the pressure and the pressure profile; and

 controlling the flow dividing device based on the evaluating so as to reduce or set to zero the recirculated air component and to continue a drying process at a reduced volumetric flow rate of the drying air through the drying chamber.

Claim 7 (new): The method for drying laundry as recited in claim 1 further comprising reducing a heating power based on the reduced volumetric flow rate of the drying air.

Claim 8 (new): A laundry dryer comprising:

- a program control module;
- a drying chamber;
- a process air circuit including a fresh air supply passageway and an exhaust air discharge passageway;
- a heater disposed in the process air circuit;
- a blower disposed in the process air circuit and configured to convey drying air through the drying chamber;
- a pressure sensor disposed in an area where the drying air enters the drying chamber and configured to measure at least one of a pressure and a pressure profile in the drying chamber; and
- a flow dividing device disposed in the process air circuit and configured to controllably divide a flow of the drying air into an exhaust air component and a recirculated air component, the flow dividing device including a shut-off damper configured to completely or partially close an air path of the recirculated air component based on the measured at least one of a pressure and a pressure profile.

Claim 9 (new): The laundry dryer as recited in claim 8 wherein:

- the drying chamber includes a rotating drum;
- the process air circuit includes a stationary heating duct section; and
- the pressure sensor is disposed in a space between the stationary heating duct section and the rotating drum.

Claim 10 (new): The laundry dryer as recited in claim 9 wherein the pressure sensor is disposed in an area where the drying air enters the drying chamber.